
Erosion Control Structure Maintenance, BMP 14.18

Objectives

- 1) To ensure erosion control structures are stable and working effectively.

Site Description

This site is in Unit 8 of the Northside Timber Sale. It is on the Missoula Ranger District of the Lolo NF in Section 35, Township 15N, Range 20W. LSI classification is 30QB and 30QA.

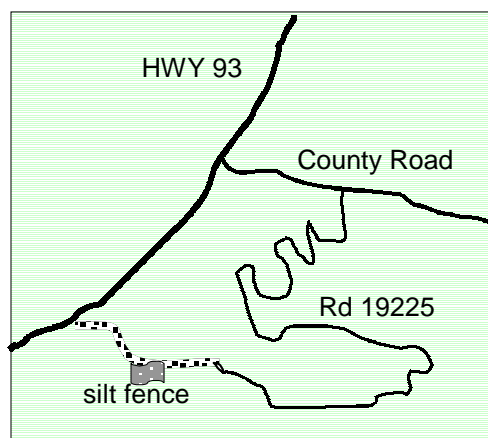


Figure 1

Narrative

Road 19225 was re-contoured in 1997 by a tracked excavator. When right-of-way timber was cut for the road, slash was gathered into a slash-filter windrow along the lower side of the new road to trap sediment. When a portion of the road was re-contoured back to its original shape, the slash-filter windrow was then used as woody debris and spread across the newly re-contoured road. A silt fence was then built to intercept and filter sediment where the recontoured road crossed a draw (photos 1 & 2).



Photo 1

The silt fence consisted of filter fabric 12 feet long x 1 foot tall. The fabric at the bottom was folded upslope to form a shallow trench. A small berm of soil was placed behind the fence to prevent soil from washing underneath the trap at a point that's susceptible to sedimentation during storm flows.



Photo 2

Observations and Measurements

The silt fence has been maintained, is stable and has worked effectively. To date the fence shows no signs of deterioration (Photo 3).

Effectiveness

This practice has proved to be successful in meeting the desired objectives. The erosion control structure was maintained for stability and effectiveness. The silt fence was removed after two years when erosion control seeding on the recontoured road was fully established.



Photo 3